Yahoo Group Archive: ARNSWHomebrewgroup

These Yahoo Groups messages were archived in WARC format by ArchiveTeam in 2018. This PDF was generated by Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications from the WARC files in 2026.

Date span: 2006-04-18 through 2015-05-31

Source WARC: arnswhomebrewgroup.a6qpJIT.warc.gz

Source item: https://archive.org/details/yahoo-groups-2018-01-21T23-36-41Z-bdcb96

Messages included in this PDF: 105

Message records with no body available in the source archive: 1

Messages omitted as spam from this PDF: 3

Yahoo replaced the domain portions of email addresses with @... in the archived messages. Characters lost in Yahoo's archived text appear as ?.

Messages are presented in ascending Yahoo message-ID order. Gaps indicate records absent from the source WARC or messages omitted from this PDF as spam.

1. test message from Gary VK2KYP

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-18 02:35:52 UTC
From: vk2kyp
Topic: 1 Message: 1

[Body unavailable in the source archive]

2. Dont forget the Hmebrew Net on Dural repeater at 7:30pm Tues 18th April (147.00)

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-18 02:48:32 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 2 Message: 2

John ASA will be our controller for tonight, listen out for him.

3. Hello

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-18 13:12:56 UTC
From: vk2emu_1
Topic: 3 Message: 3

Hello everyone.

73 de Peter VK2EMU

4. test

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-19 03:56:30 UTC
From: vk2toi
Topic: 4 Message: 4

Hi all testing that I am now in the group

Bob Kelly vk2toi

5. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] test

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-19 07:42:00 UTC
From: Johnhale
Topic: 4 Message: 5

Hi Bob,

Works for me.

73 de John VK2ASU

--------- Original Message --------
From: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
To: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
<ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au>
Subject: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] test
Date: 19/04/2006 13:56

>
>
>
>
> Hi all testing that I am now in the group
>
> Bob Kelly vk2toi
>
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> Yahoo! Groups Links
>
> To visit your group on the web, go
to:http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/ARNSWHomebrewgroup/
> To unsubscribe from this group, send an email
to:ARNSWHomebrewgroup-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com.au
> Your use of Yahoo! Groups is subject to the Yahoo! Terms of Service.
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Sponsor of the
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Foster's Australian Grand Prix

6. Project "kits"

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-19 11:50:24 UTC
From: Seppo Ahlstedt
Topic: 6 Message: 6

Home brewers,

I think the suggestions put forward via email are great. I have always liked the idea of having a "portfolio" of projects. By this I mean a set of "kit-like-projects" that we have at our disposal so that anyone can see the range of projects we have (and will continue to add to)and go ahead and build them, based on the templates, components listings, samples, etc, we have for each project. This allows people to do various projects at their time (including on home brew nights) and get assistance from others who have already completed the projects. I agree that we need a range of projects, covering component testers and the like. One approach is as follows:
1. Let's get a list of construction projects we would like to have.
2. Allocate a project to individual members who would like to get a "project kit" together for their allocated project. One "kit" is sufficient as it will always be there as a demonstration of the project at hand. Making the kit may involve doing some research (to get a suitable circuit, for example, from amongst many out there, if one has not already been made available), templates for PCB's, panel templates, component listings, etc etc etc - whatever the project entails.
3. Finally, make the project yourself, and this along with the kit will then become the basis for allowing others to copy the project. The demonstration kit and completed project stays with ARNSW.

Perhaps the kit itself could be funded somehow within the group. Individuals can then pay for their own project. We have lots of second hand components in store, and also it may be cheaper to collaborate with others if doing a similar project, when purchasing components etc.

What do you think?

Regards,
Seppo.

7. Re: Project "kits"

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-19 12:26:39 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 6 Message: 7

Seppo this is a great idea as it spreads the load a bit and kits would be available on an on-going basis. New builders can decide (hopefully with a bit of friendly advice) what they would like to build. As part of our Sunday meeting I think we should still have practical days (I think Peter EMU has in mind a building day) covering a specific or generalised subject/item, along with our technical demos. The finished item would also give prospective builders a clear view of where they are headed (no "as the engineer planned it" and " as the plumber put it together" problems.
I have some photocopies of some easy ham test gear, can scan them in and send to you as pdf files. Most could easily be built into a used PC PSU box or even a standardised al box built at the meetings as part of project.
Brian VK2TOX

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Seppo Ahlstedt" <ahlstedt@a...> wrote:
>
> Home brewers,
>
> I think the suggestions put forward via email are great. I have always liked
> the idea of having a "portfolio" of projects. By this I mean a set of
> "kit-like-projects" that we have at our disposal so that anyone can see the
> range of projects we have (and will continue to add to)and go ahead and
> build them, based on the templates, components listings, samples, etc, we
> have for each project. This allows people to do various projects at their
> time (including on home brew nights) and get assistance from others who have
> already completed the projects. I agree that we need a range of projects,
> covering component testers and the like. One approach is as follows:
> 1. Let's get a list of construction projects we would like to have.
> 2. Allocate a project to individual members who would like to get a "project
> kit" together for their allocated project. One "kit" is sufficient as it
> will always be there as a demonstration of the project at hand. Making the

> kit may involve doing some research (to get a suitable circuit, for example,
> from amongst many out there, if one has not already been made available),
> templates for PCB's, panel templates, component listings, etc etc etc -
> whatever the project entails.
> 3. Finally, make the project yourself, and this along with the kit will then
> become the basis for allowing others to copy the project. The demonstration
> kit and completed project stays with ARNSW.
>
> Perhaps the kit itself could be funded somehow within the group.
> Individuals can then pay for their own project. We have lots of second hand
> components in store, and also it may be cheaper to collaborate with others
> if doing a similar project, when purchasing components etc.
>
> What do you think?
>
> Regards,
> Seppo.
>

8. Re: Your Call Sign

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-19 12:37:47 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 4 Message: 8

Sorry John, with your interests the "ASA" did not look out of place in fact I thought to myself thats neat how he managed to get it. Must be getting daft in my old age. VK2ASU is what it should have been.
Regards Brian VK2TOX

9. Resource locator

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-20 01:36:19 UTC
From: vk2kyp
Topic: 9 Message: 9

I think we should set up a resource locator. This page can contain
Names and addresses of suppliers, this is not to endorse and one
Particular company, but help our member's find parts.
Another aspect of this is if a particular company has a special and
This is useful to our members the word can be passed around.

If this generates some revenue for a particular company they may even
Give our group a discount

What do you think guys?

73's Gary VK2KYP

10. Homebrew 2m Net Tuesday 18th April

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-20 20:50:09 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 10 Message: 10

On Tuesday night we had our first 2m Net, it was well attended with familiar voices on the air, thanks to John VK2ASU who was Net Controller for the night.
I understand there was much "wailing and gnashing of teeth" as the guys tried to get on air, myself included. Even John was working on his antennae till a few minutes before the scheduled Net.
It would seem that us Homebrewers may spend more time working at the bench on a project than actually on the air, I mean that's a fairly radical idea !, Hams actually getting on the air.
In fairness getting on the air whilst living in the inner suburbs of Sydney is not easy with ever smaller blocks of land and high rise blocks. We are often limited to some sort of clandestine length of wire or in-roof whip. For the next Net I might bundle everything into the car and go "mobile" for the night.
A good night by all accounts, the Net ran for a good hour with a number of things discussed including individual projects. The opportunity was also used to remind everyone about our meeting at McDonalds on the 2nd May, see you all there.

11. Projects

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-21 05:34:54 UTC
From: vk2kyp
Topic: 11 Message: 11

Hi All,
Would it be worth while compiling a wish list of what projects
our members wish to construct, this may generate more dicussion and
mentoring

73's Gary

12. Re: Projects

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-24 08:31:11 UTC
From: seppo_ahlstedt
Topic: 11 Message: 12

I think that's a good idea. We should centralise the list - perhaps post a message called "Project Wish List" or similar and add our wish list responses (replies) against this posting.....

13. Meeting venue

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-26 06:41:06 UTC
From: vk2emu_1
Topic: 13 Message: 13

Hi All,

As you know, next tuesday evening is the first meeting at our new venue - upstairs in McDonalds North Parramatta. I think that we should really bear in mind that this is first and foremost a restraunt where food is served, so it isn't appropriate for any chemicals or solvents and I would include solder in this as well.

As for stuff to bring, we should limit ourselves to perhaps one bag, briefcase or small box each. Lets not outstay our welcome on the first evening! While there is at least one 240V powerpoint, I don't think we should expect to plug anything into it other than a laptop or two. As I said, this is the first night so lets be fairly low key.

As for food. Well McDonalds don't provide the room as a public service out of the goodness of their hearts. They do (unspoken, but we are all old enought to know how the real world works) expect some business in return. Now if you haven't been to Maccas for a long time, it is not all burgers and chips these days. They do serve heathly food like salads and wraps as well as orange juice and coffee etc. So come early and grab some dinner before or during the get together.

73 de Peter VK2EMU
Coordinator
Radio Homebrew and Experimenter's Group.

14. Silicon Chip ESR meter

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-04-30 21:50:14 UTC
From: vk2kyp
Topic: 14 Message: 14

Hi All,
I have just finished consructing the Silicon Chip ESR meter, a kit which I brought from Dick Smith, the Kit went together well. The meter functions as per specification.
You may remember Mark VK2XOF recommended this meter for testing Electrolytic Capacitors, I agree with home it is great device and every shack should have one.

73's Gary VK2KYP

15. Balun & 2metre net

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-05-14 23:08:01 UTC
From: vk2emu_1
Topic: 15 Message: 15

Hi All,

Just a reminder that the next homebrew net will be on tomorrow night ☐ Tuesday 16th May at 7:30pm.

Balun building day. Mark and myself have started work on the balun and we are almost ready to go ☐ just finalising the enclosure. Mark has purchased the toroids (big ones) while I have purchased all bolts, nut and mounting hardware ☐ all stainless steel. We are also looking into whether we should build them with N connectors or SO-239s. (There is nothing wrong with the SO-239 ☐ after all it helped to defeat Hitler).

As for the cost, well it will be very favourable compared to commercially available ones. Because this is a "foundation special" we are looking at making them halfprice for foundation licence holders who are also members of ARNSW. We have purchased enough bits for a dozen units which is probably the most we can do in an afternoon, but if the demand is there we will put a kit of parts together.

I've asked John VK2ASU if he can take photos on the day, so there will be full instructions on the website later on for those who want to make up a kit.

73 de Peter VK2EMU

16. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Balun & 2metre net

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-05-15 03:14:45 UTC
From: Les Grant
Topic: 15 Message: 16

Hi Peter,

On 14 May 2006 at 23:08, vk2emu_1 wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> Just a reminder that the next homebrew net will be on tomorrow
> night ☐ Tuesday 16th May at 7:30pm.

Thanks for the reminder...

> Balun building day. Mark and myself have started work on the balun
> and we are almost ready to go ☐ just finalising the enclosure. Mark
> has purchased the toroids (big ones) while I have purchased all
> bolts, nut and mounting hardware ☐ all stainless steel. We are also
> looking into whether we should build them with N connectors or SO-
> 239s. (There is nothing wrong with the SO-239 ☐ after all it helped
> to defeat Hitler).

Do you need a schematic or mechanical drawing?
What enclosure are you planning to use? I have a couple of single-entry J-box balun enclosures made up here that I could use if the toroid will fit. What is the toroid diameter?
And I think the technology has advanced a little since the days of Hitler... ;-)

> As for the cost, well it will be very favourable compared to
> commercially available ones. Because this is a "foundation special"
> we are looking at making them halfprice for foundation licence
> holders who are also members of ARNSW. We have purchased enough bits
> for a dozen units which is probably the most we can do in an
> afternoon, but if the demand is there we will put a kit of parts
> together.
>
> I've asked John VK2ASU if he can take photos on the day, so there
> will be full instructions on the website later on for those who want
> to make up a kit.

Do you need an extra soldering iron?

Regards,
Les.

Les Grant. VK2KYJ. Phone: 02 9896 7150 Fax: 02 9896 7153
Grantronics Pty Ltd Int'l: +612 9896 7150, +612 9896 7153
ABN 46 070 123 643

PO Box 275, Wentworthville. NSW. 2145. Australia.
http://www.grantronics.com.au mailto:info@...
Microcontroller Hardware and Software development:
Atmel AVR - C, ASM, Digital and analogue
---
o ImageCraft AVR, TI, Motorola and ARM Windows-hosted C compilers
o ELNEC Device Programmers (E)EPROMs, Flash, Micros, PLDs
o CAN-BUS Hardware and Software from LAWICEL
o Logical Systems Programming, Prototyping & Production Adaptors
o Cleverscope USB oscilloscopes
---

17. Sunday at Dural

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-05-29 22:34:07 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 17 Message: 17

Hi everyone, what a fabulous day at Dural on Sunday 28 May. T&T and Homebrew meeting very well attended. Peter and Mark put on an excellent demo of setting up a dipole (cutting to length and hanging it up) then folowed by the beaut kit of a "current" or "choke" balun to match coax to the dipole. A very practical and easily built kit, should be long lasting and tested at full legal power. Great for the QTH or for "playing" radio out in the bush. Details of the antenna and the balun will appear shortly on the net and in our Newsletter. Meanwhile if you are interested in a kit why not drop Peter an email on vk2emu@...

18. Photos taken at Dural May 28

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-05-29 22:37:19 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 18 Message: 18

Hi everyone, check out the "Photos" section of this group for a few of the shots taken by John VK2ASU on the day, just got the proof sheets so will add more when have sorted them out.

19. crystal filter design link

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-01 00:37:39 UTC
From: Gary
Topic: 19 Message: 19

http://www.giangrandi.ch/electronics/crystalfilters/xtalfilters.shtml

20. crystal filter design

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-01 00:41:31 UTC
From: Gary
Topic: 20 Message: 20

Hi All,

http://www.giangrandi.ch/electronics/crystalfilters/xtalfilters.shtml

I found this site interesting, for those who like to design there own
crystal filters.

73's Gary

21. Coax crimper's and connectors Crimp

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-01 02:19:47 UTC
From: Gary
Topic: 21 Message: 21

Hi All,
I have been looking at getting a coax crimp tool for RG213 and some connectors. Is any one else interested in a bulk buy ?

73's Gary

22. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] crystal filter design

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-01 04:35:43 UTC
From: Owen Holmwood
Topic: 20 Message: 22

Gary,
Very interesting - comprehensive!
73
Owen

Gary wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> http://www.giangrandi.ch/electronics/crystalfilters/xtalfilters.shtml
>
> I found this site interesting, for those who like to design there own
> crystal filters.
>
> 73's Gary
>
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>
> Yahoo! Groups Links
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23. joining the group

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-10 21:12:59 UTC
From: vk2blq
Topic: 23 Message: 23

Stephen VK2BLQ
Sorry that I missed the meeting at Parramatta last week.
73

24. Digital Radio Mondiale

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-18 09:44:11 UTC
From: vk2blq
Topic: 24 Message: 24

It seems there are DRM tests on 1386kHz and 1440kHz in Australia and NZBC on SW. There are several simple receivers described; basically regens and direct conversion receivers. PC software is needed also. Question is has anyone already made a start on this?
Stephen

25. more drm

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-06-19 01:10:35 UTC
From: vk2blq
Topic: 25 Message: 25

So far; I have a 40m/11m converter and changed the 20MHz crystal to 7159kHz, a stock crystal. This is 14kHz away from NZBC on 7145kHz and may be close enough to decode or pull the rock low by 2kHz.
So good.
Stephen

26. Re: more drm

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-07-10 09:11:24 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 25 Message: 26

Hi Stephen, interested in this project, converter is a Drew Diamond or
AR Circuit, or you roll your own.
Have you located the software to read the DRM yet.
73 Brian VK2TOX

>
> So far; I have a 40m/11m converter and changed the 20MHz crystal to
> 7159kHz, a stock crystal. This is 14kHz away from NZBC on 7145kHz
and
> may be close enough to decode or pull the rock low by 2kHz.
> So good.
> Stephen
>

27. Trickle Charger

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-07-19 02:33:41 UTC
From: Nicholas Fisher
Topic: 27 Message: 27

Hi Group

I've recently aquired 5 sealed lead acid batteries out of a UPS that I want to set up in parallel as a standby supply for the shack and as a portable supply for field/WICEN use.

I'd really appreciate some advice on the best way to set up a charger.

Cheers

Nick VK2ZNF

The LOST Ninja blog: Exclusive clues, clips and gossip.

28. Re: Photos taken at Dural May 28

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-07-22 08:07:13 UTC
From: Koen
Topic: 18 Message: 28

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "brian_vk2tox"
<brian_vk2tox@y...> wrote:
>
> Hi everyone, check out the "Photos" section of this group for a few
of
> the shots taken by John VK2ASU on the day, just got the proof sheets
> so will add more when have sorted them out.
>
Hi guys,

I have posted some more photos just in time for the next Dural meeting.
I hope you like them.

Cheers,

Koen.

29. Last weekends project

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-03 20:31:37 UTC
From: Shaun
Topic: 29 Message: 29

Hello everyone,

I missed last weeks homebrew due to another comitment. I am primerily interested in building a HF mobile antenna for the car. Was anything along these lines discussed?

Many thanks

VK2XPP

Shaun

30. Re: Last weekends project

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-04 15:55:49 UTC
From: Koen
Topic: 29 Message: 30

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Shaun"
<shaunbreath@o...> wrote:
>
> Hello everyone,
>
> I missed last weeks homebrew due to another comitment. I am
primerily interested in building a HF mobile antenna for the car.
Was anything along these lines discussed?
>
> Many thanks
>
> VK2XPP
>
> Shaun
>
Hi Shaun,

No, not specifically but the design of the vertical for 80m can be
used for a mobile antenna as well. The most difficult part of a
mobile antenna is to make it strong enough so it doesn't blow to
pieces when you get on the highway.

Cheers,

Koen, VK2ZHA

31. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Re: Last weekends project

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-05 04:52:03 UTC
From: Shaun
Topic: 29 Message: 31

Thanks Koen
----- Original Message -----
From: Koen
To: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
Sent: Saturday, August 05, 2006 1:55 AM
Subject: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Re: Last weekends project

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Shaun"
<shaunbreath@o...> wrote:
>
> Hello everyone,
>
> I missed last weeks homebrew due to another comitment. I am
primerily interested in building a HF mobile antenna for the car.
Was anything along these lines discussed?
>
> Many thanks
>
> VK2XPP
>
> Shaun
>
Hi Shaun,

No, not specifically but the design of the vertical for 80m can be
used for a mobile antenna as well. The most difficult part of a
mobile antenna is to make it strong enough so it doesn't blow to
pieces when you get on the highway.

Cheers,

Koen, VK2ZHA

32. CAT. NO. KV3600 Jaycar USB Experimenter's Interface Kit

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-21 07:26:54 UTC
From: Shaun
Topic: 32 Message: 32

Has anyone thought of using one of these for an echolink or similar radio controler??

Shaun
USB Experimenter's Interface Kit

Interface your computer to the real world with this sophisticated USB Kit. There are five digital inputs to monitor the state of external switches or controls and two variable gain analogue inputs that can be connected to sensors and used for measuring temperature, humidity, voltage, current, & other variable parameters. Eight digital and two analogue outputs are available for controlling external equipment. The kit is supplied with all components, silk screened PCB, assembly manual, and software. PCB measures 145 x 87mm.
Specifications:
* 5 Digital inputs
* 2 Analogue inputs with variable gain and integrated counters
* Analogue input range 0 to 5VDC
* 8 Open collector digital outputs
* 2 Analogue outputs PWM or 0 to 5VDC
* On-board test buttons for inputs and LED
* USB powered
* Win98SE or above (Not NT)

http://www.velleman.be/downloads/0/user/usermanual_k8055_dll_uk.pdf

33. Re: CAT. NO. KV3600 Jaycar USB Experimenter's Interface Kit

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-22 07:26:28 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 32 Message: 33

Hi Shaun,
Kit looks good, how about one of you guys with a bit of time on your hands work it up as an interface for testing a piece of equipment.
Say you have just completed a transmitter or PSU project and you want to test it over a period, then you need to monitor temperatures , control voltages etc over a period of time so also need to log the parameters to a file.
Have a go at some or all of this
Brian K.
--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Shaun" <shaunbreath@o...> wrote:
>
>
>
> Has anyone thought of using one of these for an echolink or similar radio controler??
>
>
> Shaun
> USB Experimenter's Interface Kit
>
> Interface your computer to the real world with this sophisticated USB Kit. There are five digital inputs to monitor the state of external switches or controls and two variable gain analogue inputs that can be connected to sensors and used for measuring temperature, humidity, voltage, current, & other variable parameters. Eight digital and two analogue outputs are available for controlling external equipment. The kit is supplied with all components, silk screened PCB, assembly manual, and software. PCB measures 145 x 87mm.
> Specifications:
> * 5 Digital inputs
> * 2 Analogue inputs with variable gain and integrated counters
> * Analogue input range 0 to 5VDC
> * 8 Open collector digital outputs
> * 2 Analogue outputs PWM or 0 to 5VDC
> * On-board test buttons for inputs and LED
> * USB powered
> * Win98SE or above (Not NT)
>
> http://www.velleman.be/downloads/0/user/usermanual_k8055_dll_uk.pdf
>

35. Re: Last weekends project

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-22 07:36:57 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 29 Message: 35

Hello Shaun and Keon,
re the HF mobile antenea, tow bar mount seems to be the way to go to reduce wind and collision damage (unless you back into something !!) next time you are up at Dural check out Les VK2KYJ and his tow bar mounted remotely controlled HF whip, think he does it with a PIC or AVR chip monitoring SWR. It very compact and seems to work well.

The Group is headed in that direction as it is a common requirement, next meeting at Dural may be on 2m anteneas (vertical), get us some ideas for the HF mobile (presume need multiband) and we can work on a project and most importantly source the bits to build it with.
Gosh, you might even see yourselves in the next Homebrew Newsletter.
Brian VK2TOX

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Koen" <vk2zha@i...>
wrote:
>
> --- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Shaun"
> <shaunbreath@o...> wrote:
> >
> > Hello everyone,
> >
> > I missed last weeks homebrew due to another comitment. I am
> primerily interested in building a HF mobile antenna for the car.
> Was anything along these lines discussed?
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> > VK2XPP
> >
> > Shaun
> >
> Hi Shaun,
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> No, not specifically but the design of the vertical for 80m can be
> used for a mobile antenna as well. The most difficult part of a
> mobile antenna is to make it strong enough so it doesn't blow to
> pieces when you get on the highway.
>
> Cheers,
>
> Koen, VK2ZHA
>

36. Re: Trickle Charger

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-08-22 07:51:15 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 27 Message: 36

Hi Nick, only just noticed this message, has anyone come back to you with some advice yet. If so how about letting us know what you have done. If not then could you let us know what sort of capacity the batts are and basically how you would like to re-charge them ie solar, mains bat charger, petrol generator etc.
Not knowing how big they are, have to ask if your concept is to build them up or connect them into some form of "power pak" with terminals for battery, charger and equipment. Also perhaps some form of metering (meters or LEDs or LCD display).
For emergency/mobile use I would strongly sugest this route as I have just paid over $200 to have my HF rig repaired after accidentally connecting it to the generator instead of the battery, one very dark and cold night out in the bush.
Look forward to hearing from you
Brian VK2TOX

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, Nicholas Fisher <nicholasdfisher@y...> wrote:
>
> Hi Group
>
> I've recently aquired 5 sealed lead acid batteries out of a UPS that I want to set up in parallel as a standby supply for the shack and as a portable supply for field/WICEN use.
>
> I'd really appreciate some advice on the best way to set up a charger.
>
> Cheers
>
> Nick VK2ZNF
>
>
> ---
> The LOST Ninja blog: Exclusive clues, clips and gossip.
>

37. Home Brew Echolink Interface

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-09-02 23:35:43 UTC
From: Shaun
Topic: 37 Message: 37
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

Hi Everyone,

Well I have proved the concept is sound, now I have to tidy it up a bit.

However knowing me it will be like this for some time

Shaun

38. TRAVEL

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-09-03 10:21:00 UTC
From: Owen Holmwood
Topic: 38 Message: 38

Dear all,
I'll be up in Qld for a week or so, so won't be at the homebrew group meeting on Tuesday evening.
Back in circulation Wed Sept 13.
Cheers
Owen
,

39. New file uploaded to ARNSWHomebrewgroup

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-10-18 01:49:04 UTC
From: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
Topic: 39 Message: 39

```
Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the ARNSWHomebrewgroup
group.

File : /002.PDF
Uploaded by : vk2kyp <gbeech@...>
Description : lenkurt oscillator

You can access this file at the URL

http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/ARNSWHomebrewgroup/files/002.PDF

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit

http://help.yahoo.com/help/au/groups/files

Regards,

vk2kyp <gbeech@...>
```

40. New file uploaded to ARNSWHomebrewgroup

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-10-18 01:37:20 UTC
From: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
Topic: 39 Message: 40

```
Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the ARNSWHomebrewgroup
group.

File : /001.PDF
Uploaded by : vk2kyp <gbeech@...>
Description : lenkurt modulator demoulator

You can access this file at the URL

http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/ARNSWHomebrewgroup/files/001.PDF

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit

http://help.yahoo.com/help/au/groups/files

Regards,

vk2kyp <gbeech@...>
```

41. Lenkurt CTE modules

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-10-18 02:00:20 UTC
From: Gary
Topic: 41 Message: 41

Hi all, I have just uploaded a coulpe of schematics of the Lenkurt CTE modules that have been available at the T&T sales

73's Gary

42. Looking for a 2x130 pF tuning cap

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-11-23 11:57:11 UTC
From: Koen
Topic: 42 Message: 42

Hi guys,

I want to build a dipmeter for HF and I am looking for a split stator tuning capacitor or butterfly cap of around 130 pF. The smaller the better and preferably with a 6mm metal shaft.
Anyone has one in the junkbox that I can buy or swap for something you need?

Alternatively if you know where to buy one that info is welcome too.

See you in Dural next Sunday.

Koen, VK2ZHA

43. Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to members and visitors

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-12-26 22:02:15 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 43 Message: 43

Very quiet here this month so everyone must either be busy with Xmas or building gear. Who is working on the new "80m Challange" TX as detailed by Peter VK2EMU on the VK2WI broadcast and also the Homebrew 2m net earlier this month.
See you at Macca's Nth Parramatta on the 2nd January and after the Trash and Treasure at Dural on 28th January.

44. 2007 Meetings in the Calendar

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2006-12-26 22:26:20 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 44 Message: 44

The Calendar has been updated with the meeting dates and times for 2007 also included are our 2m net nights. members and visitors are welcome.

45. Digital LC meter

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-01-28 12:24:13 UTC
From: Koen
Topic: 45 Message: 45

Hi Homebrewers,

Details of the LC meter I showed this afternoon can be found via the link below.

http://ironbark.bendigo.latrobe.edu.au/~rice/lc/

The original design was from Almost All Digital Electronics.
This company still sells this LC meter as a kit but it has been copied by many with the same surprisingly good results.

http://www.aade.com/

As said I can program a PIC16F84 for those that don't have a programmer. Just send me an email and we work something out.

73's,

Koen VK2ZHA

46. Space charge valves

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-02-05 21:28:12 UTC
From: Chris Flak VK2QV
Topic: 46 Message: 46

Has any one experimented with these valves? They are 12V DC valves used in some 60's American car radios. I'm curious if they can be used in a QRP transmitter. Maybe even a hybrid setup using MOSFETS in the output stage. Any input/advice/comment appreciated.

73 chris vk2qv

47. Re: Space charge valves

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-02-06 03:24:46 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 46 Message: 47

Chris,

I built a hybrid regenerative receiver using a 12DZ6 a few years back:

http://www.nj7p.org/Tube4.php?tube=12DZ6
http://www.vk2zay.net/article.php/40

The plate current limit restricts the kind of power you can get from this particular device, but it would function for signal processing stages, either TX or RX.

The heater currents are fairly modest, but for battery powered QRP gear in portable use it is a killer; best to use solid state. If it is just for some fun working with tubes from the 12 V shack supply then it is quite feasible.

Regards,
Alan VK2ZAY

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Chris Flak VK2QV" <flakkie@...> wrote:
>
> Has any one experimented with these valves? They are 12V DC valves used
> in some 60's American car radios. I'm curious if they can be used in a
> QRP transmitter. Maybe even a hybrid setup using MOSFETS in the output
> stage. Any input/advice/comment appreciated.
>
> 73 chris vk2qv
>

48. Re: Space charge valves

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-02-12 23:48:23 UTC
From: Chris Flak VK2QV
Topic: 46 Message: 48

Thanks Alan. Yes there is a superhet using 12AD6/12DZ6 appeared in QST in 2003 - I'm building that at present. Apparently there was a mobile transmitter designed in the 60's some time, I might track that one down as well.

73 chris

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Alan Yates" <homebrewgroup@...> wrote:
>
> Chris,
>
> I built a hybrid regenerative receiver using a 12DZ6 a few years back:
>
> http://www.nj7p.org/Tube4.php?tube=12DZ6
> http://www.vk2zay.net/article.php/40
>
> The plate current limit restricts the kind of power you can get from
> this particular device, but it would function for signal processing
> stages, either TX or RX.
>
> The heater currents are fairly modest, but for battery powered QRP
> gear in portable use it is a killer; best to use solid state. If it
> is just for some fun working with tubes from the 12 V shack supply
> then it is quite feasible.
>
> Regards,
> Alan VK2ZAY
>
> --- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Chris Flak VK2QV"
> <flakkie@> wrote:
> >
> > Has any one experimented with these valves? They are 12V DC valves used
> > in some 60's American car radios. I'm curious if they can be used in a
> > QRP transmitter. Maybe even a hybrid setup using MOSFETS in the output
> > stage. Any input/advice/comment appreciated.
> >
> > 73 chris vk2qv
> >
>

49. Field Day Goodies

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-02-18 09:27:06 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 49 Message: 49

So what did we all get at Wyong?

I was on the look out for the usual homebrew goodies, variable capacitors, reduction drives, cases, meter movements, crystal filters, boards with good stuff on them, etc.

I saw very little worth picking up, but I did grab an AF-1.0 MHz BWD signal generator. It is tube based, weighs a heck of a lot, but has a very lovely silky-smooth dial mechanism, and the case is pretty sweet as well. I am really thinking twice about gutting it for the dial drive, it is just an excellent unit, but it would make a great receiver or piece of test equipment on a more useful frequency range.

Another solid state signal generator I got had banana jack output, but I just finished changing that to BNC to match all my leads. It has a nice anti-backlash reduction drive, but it isn't geared down enough to make it especially easy to use, it covers LF-HF in just 5 bands. That one might get junked for the drive, but until I find a 6:1 drive to repair my current "Loadstar" unit it is easier to use.

Not much else to mention, some egg insulators from the WICEN stand, some books from the WIA book sale, and some transmitting twinlead from Andrews. That's about it.

--
Alan Yates VK2ZAY
http://www.vk2zay.net/

51. Finding love after 50: How to Begin? Where to Go? What to do?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-03-09 01:18:21 UTC
From: justin Timberlake
Topic: 51 Message: 51

Finding love after 50: How to Begin? Where to Go? What to do?

Want a website for finding love after 50, it's for widowers, widows, divorced men, divorced women, middle-aged singles, boomer singles and senior singles. Lonely? Want to find a mate? Find answers on this website and only two steps to join!
http://hometown.aol.com/tlcsingles/50plusfriends.htm

Get your own web address.
Have a HUGE year through Yahoo! Small Business.

Get your own web address.
Have a HUGE year through Yahoo! Small Business.

52. The photos of the mini field day at Dural are on the web site.

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-05-28 13:28:05 UTC
From: Koen
Topic: 52 Message: 52

Hi guys,

I just put some photos of last Sunday's day at Dural on the website.
Check them out and enjoy.

Cheers Koen, VK2ZHA.

P.S. I think it was an enjoyable day. Pity I couldn't stay until the
end. Well worth doing again.

53. Re: The photos of the mini field day at Dural are on the web site.

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-05-28 20:55:12 UTC
From: peterbmarks
Topic: 52 Message: 53

Great pictures!

It was a lovely day. Fantastic weather for it too.

I picked up a few bits and pieces but happily no major junk.

(Good to see something other than spam on this list too).

cheers,

peter vk2tpm
http://marxy.org

54. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] The photos of the mini field day at Dural are on the web site.

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-05-29 03:02:11 UTC
From: Tony Farrow
Topic: 52 Message: 54
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

55. Dural 50th Photos

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-05-29 12:07:41 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 55 Message: 55

Hi all,

Posted some photos from last Sunday on the Homebrewgroup site.

Regards
John VK2ASU

56. My VK2WI 50th Photos

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-05-31 14:26:50 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 56 Message: 56

I just wrote up my Dural Field Day experience (with some photos):

http://www.vk2zay.net/article.php/122

61. Homebrew TV Site similar to Solder Smoke

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-10-20 04:54:17 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 61 Message: 61

Hi all,

Heard about this site http://www.amateurlogic.com/downloads1.htm

Apparently it is a video based version of Solder Smoke podcast. There are so far 16 episodes. Each episode is from 50 to 100mb. I don't have an unlimited broadband account or I would download them all.

73 de John

62. Interfacing your Spectrum Analayser to a PC

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-11-09 01:51:03 UTC
From: Gary VK2KYP
Topic: 62 Message: 62

Hi All,
I came accros a website that decribes how to interface a PC to your spectrum analyser or similiar device. Roland F2DC whose weblink is shown below has a great article

http://roland.cordesses.free.fr/san2pc.html

I plan to get some pcb's and programmed pic-processors for this project. These are 19:50 USD plus postage from Far Circuits in USA.

If anyone is interested can they please email me

73 Gary VK2KYP

63. Looking for an IC to complete a EA130 Receiver

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-11-27 21:20:06 UTC
From: brian_vk2tox
Topic: 63 Message: 63

On Sunday, Len, from the Hunter Group asked for help looking for IC type AWM1306 to complete an EA130 receiver. It is a long obsolete AWA FM IF - discriminator chip.

If you can help, please leave a message or email vk2tox@wia.org.au
Thanks

64. Re: Looking for an IC to complete a EA130 Receiver

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2007-11-28 14:45:52 UTC
From: Mike Burgess
Topic: 63 Message: 64

```
--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "brian_vk2tox"
<brian_vk2tox@...> wrote:
>
> On Sunday, Len, from the Hunter Group asked for help looking for IC
> type AWM1306 to complete an EA130 receiver. It is a long obsolete AWA
> FM IF - discriminator chip.
>
> If you can help, please leave a message or email vk2tox@...
> Thanks
>

I just did a brief look at http://octopart.com/search?q=AWM1306
and found nothing.

Any old data sheets - maybe a replacement could be made to work in
it's spot ?
```

65. Anyone got an old TV transformer

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-01-12 04:58:03 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 65 Message: 65

Looking for a transformer with about 240 Volts a side at 150 ma plus two 6.3 volt windings for replacement in an AM glowbug transmitter. Needn't look good, just work.

Thanks guys.

66. Wyong Field Day

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-01 03:58:23 UTC
From: Dan Joyce
Topic: 66 Message: 66

Peter, thanks for the info and pass. Jack and I have a 23cm DATV set-up to display, possibly the first in VK2. Also will show and tell some other home-brewed ATV gear. May thanks again for having us as part of the ARNSW table. Dan VK2GG

67. Wyong Display

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-19 11:46:18 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 67 Message: 67

Hi All,

Just uploaded a couple of photos of our display.

Regards John

68. Locally available equivalent for MRF261?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-21 08:59:04 UTC
From: peterbmarks
Topic: 68 Message: 68

I'm building the PSK-20 but I think the final, an MRF261, isn't
working. It seems ok DC wise and it's being driven with the right amount of RF but nothing comes out.

Can anyone suggest an alternative, I can't seem to see that (or the MRF262 which looks like a
slightly better specd version) available anywhere.

Many thanks in advance.

Transistor specs here: http://members.tripod.com/~Malzev/comp/mrf262.htm

69. Re: Locally available equivalent for MRF261?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-21 10:39:27 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 68 Message: 69

Peter,

Try a 2SC1969 CB output transistor. Its only a HF device, not a VHF one, but the power handling is similar. Its actually slightly more robust and is just about unkillable by mismatch. Should have plenty of gain at 20 metres.

I think have some in the junkbox if you can't find them around.

Looking at the PSK-20 circuit one quick suggesting might be to check the collector bifilar transformer of that stage. If the phasing isn't correct it would cause extremely poor output.

Regards,
Alan

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "peterbmarks" <peter.marks@...> wrote:
>
> I'm building the PSK-20 but I think the final, an MRF261, isn't
> working. It seems ok DC wise and it's being driven with the right amount of RF but nothing
> comes out.
>
> Can anyone suggest an alternative, I can't seem to see that (or the MRF262 which looks like a
> slightly better specd version) available anywhere.
>
> Many thanks in advance.
>
> Transistor specs here: http://members.tripod.com/~Malzev/comp/mrf262.htm
>

70. Re: Locally available equivalent for MRF261?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-21 21:42:36 UTC
From: peterbmarks
Topic: 68 Message: 70

Thanks Alan,

I don't think it's the output bifilar transformer as I have no signal on the collector.

Here's what I see during transmit:

Emitter: 0.00 V DC
Base: 0.78V DC, 1.42V p-to-p AC
Collector: 12V DC, no AC

Thanks for the tip on an alternative transistor, yes the supplied device seems rather over spec'd for 14MHz.

Peter
--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Alan Yates" <homebrewgroup@...>
wrote:
>
> Peter,
>
> Try a 2SC1969 CB output transistor. Its only a HF device, not a VHF
> one, but the power handling is similar. Its actually slightly more
> robust and is just about unkillable by mismatch. Should have plenty
> of gain at 20 metres.
>
> I think have some in the junkbox if you can't find them around.
>
> Looking at the PSK-20 circuit one quick suggesting might be to check
> the collector bifilar transformer of that stage. If the phasing isn't
> correct it would cause extremely poor output.
>
> Regards,
> Alan
>
> --- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "peterbmarks"
> <peter.marks@> wrote:
> >
> > I'm building the PSK-20 but I think the final, an MRF261, isn't
> > working. It seems ok DC wise and it's being driven with the right
> amount of RF but nothing
> > comes out.
> >
> > Can anyone suggest an alternative, I can't seem to see that (or the
> MRF262 which looks like a
> > slightly better specd version) available anywhere.
> >
> > Many thanks in advance.

```
> >
> > Transistor specs here: http://members.tripod.com/~Malzev/comp/mrf262.htm
> >
>
```

71. Re: Locally available equivalent for MRF261?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-22 00:15:12 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 68 Message: 71

No voltage on the emitter is a bad sign, with that small emitter resistance from R40-R42 you'd expect to see some voltage dropped across them if the transistor was switching on from the diode bias.

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "peterbmarks" <peter.marks@...> wrote:
>
> Thanks Alan,
>
> I don't think it's the output bifilar transformer as I have no signal on the collector.
>
> Here's what I see during transmit:
>
> Emitter: 0.00 V DC
> Base: 0.78V DC, 1.42V p-to-p AC
> Collector: 12V DC, no AC

72. Re: Locally available equivalent for MRF261?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-22 02:06:51 UTC
From: peterbmarks
Topic: 68 Message: 72

Ok, I've swapped out the MRF261 and put in an MJE3055, basically just another NPN in a TO-220 case. I had to bend the pins around as it's BCE instead of BEC.

Good news is that I'm now seeing RF out. 4.3V Peak to peak across 50 ohms, which I think is about 0.2W

Thanks for your help, I'll start the hunt for a better final transistor and might take you up
on your offer.

73s

vk2tpm (on psk31 QRP!)
--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Alan Yates" <homebrewgroup@...>
wrote:
>
>
> No voltage on the emitter is a bad sign, with that small emitter
> resistance from R40-R42 you'd expect to see some voltage dropped
> across them if the transistor was switching on from the diode bias.
>
> --- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "peterbmarks"
> <peter.marks@> wrote:
> >
> > Thanks Alan,
> >
> > I don't think it's the output bifilar transformer as I have no
> signal on the collector.
> >
> > Here's what I see during transmit:
> >
> > Emitter: 0.00 V DC
> > Base: 0.78V DC, 1.42V p-to-p AC
> > Collector: 12V DC, no AC
>

73. Wanted: J310 FET's or equivalent

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-22 04:06:34 UTC
From: Tony Magon
Topic: 73 Message: 73

Hi

Can anyone advise me where I can get a couple of J310 FET's or equivalent.

73

Tony VK2IC

74. Re: Wanted: J310 FET's or equivalent

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-02-22 09:33:28 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 73 Message: 74

Tony,

If you're coming to the next Macca's I can bring some.

Otherwise, the eBay seller dpi4parts is where I got mine.

Regards,
Alan VK2ZAY

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, Tony Magon <tmagon@...>
wrote:

> Can anyone advise me where I can get a couple of J310 FET's or
equivalent.

75. Re: Trickle Charger

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-05-08 12:49:40 UTC
From: Andrew
Topic: 27 Message: 75

Hi Nick - I built one, some years ago now, from a "Silicon Chip" article - it was a charger for a portable guitar amp project they had (The Busker, I think it was called) - I used a power transformer from a hard rubbish VCR, a junk box relay, and I recall it used an LM317 and a few common transistors - it had a PCB pattern as well...cost was totally minimal - it disconnects via a relay from the batteries when it gets to a preset value, (thus avoiding back discharge) then reconnects when they drop. Its slow, but keeps them topped up. 2 leds on the front - green to show its charging, red as a mains on indicator.Being totally disorganized, no idea where the paperwork is....

There are commercial ones available, but thats not the point, is it hi hi!

73 de VK3BFA Andrew.

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, Nicholas Fisher <nicholasdfisher@...> wrote:
>
> Hi Group
>
> I've recently aquired 5 sealed lead acid batteries out of a UPS that I want to set up in parallel as a standby supply for the shack and as a portable supply for field/WICEN use.
>
> I'd really appreciate some advice on the best way to set up a charger.
>
> Cheers
>
> Nick VK2ZNF
>
>
> ---
> The LOST Ninja blog: Exclusive clues, clips and gossip.
>

77. Good Morning

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 01:06:41 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 77 Message: 77

Morning Gents!

Just thought I'd say G'day by way of testing my access to this mailing list.

73, Steve
VK2SJA

78. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Good Morning

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 02:17:07 UTC
From: owen holmwood
Topic: 77 Message: 78

Stephen Arnold wrote:

>Morning Gents!
>
>Just thought I'd say G'day by way of testing my access to this mailing list.
>
>73, Steve
>VK2SJA
>
>
>
>
Steve,
It works!
Owen VK2aej

79. Re: Good Morning

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 02:40:25 UTC
From: peterbmarks
Topic: 77 Message: 79

Yep it works, and let me say it's great to see something other than spam messages here.

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Stephen Arnold" <vk2sja@...> wrote:
>
> Morning Gents!
>
> Just thought I'd say G'day by way of testing my access to this mailing list.
>
> 73, Steve
> VK2SJA
>

80. I.F. Selection

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 04:51:09 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 77 Message: 80

Hello Owen and Peter,

On Wed, September 3, 2008 12:40 pm, peterbmarks wrote:
> Yep it works, and let me say it's great to see something other than spam
> messages here.

Yes, a bit of a worry when there was only one message in July offering a mail order "Uni Degree" ;-)

Anyway, to return to the subject heading...

First up, I'm a rank beginner.

I'm about to embark upon a project to build my first receiver. At this stage its just that, an 80m receiver. But I have grandiose plans of making it the heart of a multi-band receiver with a separate matching transmitter at some stage in the future.

While a more modern Direct Conversion receiver using a "quadrature sampling detector" (QSD or "Tayloe detector" as named after the most recent chap to popularise the technique) looks really interesting I thought I might learn more by building a more traditional "superhet".

So that led me to consider the choice of I.F. frequency and the distinct non abundance of "off-the-shelf" crystals.

I'm wondering what more learned chaps think of this crazy idea:

I.F. of 6.0 Mhz

VCO/LO running 2.0 to 2.5 Mhz. Mixing to give 3.5 to 4.0 Mhz coverage.

Problems as per my limited understanding of the field:

1. 2 is an even number so all the even number harmonics will likely cause havoc up the spectrum. Probably why an odd numbered 5.0 to 5.5 Mhz is a popular I.F. - Yes?

2. 1st harmonic (primary) 2.0 Mhz is uncomfortably close to the top of 160m.

3. 2nd harmonic 4.0 Mhz uncomfortably close to the top of 80m.

4. Other harmonics collide with some WARC bands.

But if I accept the following design limitations up front:

1. 160m is "hard" for a beginner, or so I've read. So I'm happy to loose 160m for the moment.

2. Also happy to delete all the WARC bands as well. Probably a good idea for a beginner. As once I get to the transmitter then at least any undesirable harmonics are probably going to be confined within other Amateur bands (we are still talking of a separate TX but I'm assuming for the moment that I'll use the same mixing scheme).

Advantages? Why would I want to do this?

1. 2.0 Mhz is nice and low so a beginner has a better chance of building a good high-Q oscillator (but I plan on cheating and doing stabilisation with "huff puff").

and now for the real reason...

2. 6.0 Mhz crystals for the I.F are readily available and CHEAP!!!

Any thoughts gentlemen? Am I a lunatic trying to do the insanely impossible or will this scheme work satisfactorily?

Any advice or guidance most welcome.

I like building things. But only if they work! ;-)

73, Steve
VK2SJA

81. Re: I.F. Selection

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 06:16:56 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 77 Message: 81

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Stephen Arnold" <vk2sja@...> wrote:

> I.F. of 6.0 Mhz
>
> VCO/LO running 2.0 to 2.5 Mhz. Mixing to give 3.5 to 4.0 Mhz coverage.

I'd probably go the other way with high-side injection. An IF around 2 MHz and an LO of 5.5 - 6 MHz. That might be a little weird (and inverts the sidebands, but the BFO injection can be retuned to deal with that), but I think it is easier to build a LO with fairly linear tuning and reasonable output level stability when it is tuning over less relative range. Frequency stability shouldn't be too bad if well constructed especially with the H&P.

At 2 MHz you could build an LC IF filter for initial tests with reasonable selectivity before using an xtal one (LC filters can with some care do a loaded Q of 100 or 20 kHz, not a bad starting point but it would be physically quite large). 2 MHz also means many op-amps could be used at the IF frequency if you feel like being unconventional. :) 2 MHz xtals are also just 20 cents each from Rockby at the moment.

I'd build it backwards, but probably start with the shack audio amplifier because I am lazy. The IF side is hardest part, especially if you want AGC. The BFO and product detector and its associated filtering should be easy and I'd do that first, if you want AM support you could arrange that with another detector or maybe the same detector with the BFO turned off depending on the topology. Because of the relatively low IF you could use the old MK484 for an AM detector. Next would be the IF amplifier, maybe start without AGC just cascading two feedback amplifier stages, then add a better IF amp later?

The xtal or LC IF filter can go next or be deferred until you've got the mixer, diplexer and LO working. Finishing touches would be the dedicated AF amplifier, front-end BPF, maybe an RF amplifier but on 80 that's likely not needed.

82. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] I.F. Selection

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 06:32:11 UTC
From: owen holmwood
Topic: 77 Message: 82

Steve,
Here are my comments, inserted into your original email:

Stephen Arnold wrote:

>So that led me to consider the choice of I.F. frequency and the distinct
>non abundance of "off-the-shelf" crystals.
>
>I'm wondering what more learned chaps think of this crazy idea:
>
>I.F. of 6.0 Mhz
>
>VCO/LO running 2.0 to 2.5 Mhz. Mixing to give 3.5 to 4.0 Mhz coverage.
>
>
>
Running the VFO on the low side will result in an increasing VFO
frequency corresponding to a decreasing
antenna input frequency. This will make a digital frequency readout more
difficult to implement. With an IF on a whole number of MHz, you can
even use a standard separate frequency counter to display kHz! A VFO
running 9.5 to 10MHz would fix this, but you would have to pay more
attention to oscillator stability. An IFof 4MHz (crystals readily
available) and VFO 7.5 to 8MHz might be easier. Lots of options - see
Drew Diamond's "Computarock" receiver for a good design 3-4MHz RX
preceded by separate converters for each HF band of interest. This has
the advantge of having easily testable sub-systems, and the basic 80m
RX can be expanded progressively.

>Problems as per my limited understanding of the field:
>
>1. 2 is an even number so all the even number harmonics will likely cause
>havoc up the spectrum. Probably why an odd numbered 5.0 to 5.5 Mhz is a
>popular I.F. - Yes?
>
>2. 1st harmonic (primary) 2.0 Mhz is uncomfortably close to the top of 160m.
>
>3. 2nd harmonic 4.0 Mhz uncomfortably close to the top of 80m.
>
>4. Other harmonics collide with some WARC bands.
>
>
Don't worry about harmonics of the VFO - unless they appear in one of
the higher HF amateur bands. Your suggestion of 2 to 2.5MHz will
produce "birdies" in the 40m, 20m, 15m....a higher VFO freq. will
avoid this.

>But if I accept the following design limitations up front:
>
>1. 160m is "hard" for a beginner, or so I've read. So I'm happy to loose
>160m for the moment.
>
>
Still possible to have a separate 160m converter with the necessary BC
band rejection filters in the front end,
along with a better converter than the NE602 equivalent. You could
experiment here with a ring diode mixer
and have some real fun!

>2. Also happy to delete all the WARC bands as well. Probably a good idea
>for a beginner. As once I get to the transmitter then at least any
>undesirable harmonics are probably going to be confined within other
>Amateur bands (we are still talking of a separate TX but I'm assuming for
>the moment that I'll use the same mixing scheme).
>
>
If you follow Drew"s approach, separate converters will give you all the
flexibility you need.

>Advantages? Why would I want to do this?
>
>1. 2.0 Mhz is nice and low so a beginner has a better chance of building a
>good high-Q oscillator (but I plan on cheating and doing stabilisation
>with "huff puff").
>
>
There's plenty of info around on building stable VFOs below 10MHz - you
probably won't need stabilisation anyhow.

>and now for the real reason...
>
>2. 6.0 Mhz crystals for the I.F are readily available and CHEAP!!!
>
>
So are 4,5, 8 and 10 MHz crystals.

>Any thoughts gentlemen? Am I a lunatic trying to do the insanely
>impossible or will this scheme work satisfactorily?
>
>Any advice or guidance most welcome.
>
>I like building things. But only if they work! ;-)
>
>73, Steve
>VK2SJA
>
>
>
Have a go ! Bite the bullet!

73
Owen VK2AEJ

83. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] I.F. Selection

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 07:18:21 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 77 Message: 83

Thankyou Owen & Alan,

Excellent advice!!

I've printed both replies so I can toddle off and re-read and thoughtfully digest.

73, Steve.

84. 13.8v 20 amp PS from a computer PS

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-03 07:31:29 UTC
From: Shaun
Topic: 84 Message: 84

Ladies and Gents,

I picked up a flyer for this PS at the BMARC Winterfest, however it is a written description of how the project is achieved. Would anyone have any diagrams of how to achieve the project? I suppose it is hard as I don't have a computer PS at this stage however, Hornsby is about to have a council clean up.

Thanks in advance

Shaun VK2XPP

85. Ferrite Core Calculations

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-09 05:04:18 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 85 Message: 85

Hi there All,

The newbie with more questions for the collective mind...

Still working on parts for a VCO. Again with thanks to Owen & Alan for their replies to the "I.F. Selection question".

I'm going to order a small heap of 2 Mhz crystals from Rockby. They are very cheap and I like Alan's idea of using 2 Mhz for the I.F. and injecting the VCO high side.

Owen's suggestion of injecting high side but using a VFO from 9.5 to 10MHz is also still a possibility as I already have a whole bunch of 6.0 Mhz crystals to use for the I.F.

Today's question(s) relates to a RF choke in the circuit I'm loosely trying to copy. It is listed as 470uH and is on the oscillators FET source(?) pin between the source and ground (after the inductor there is also a parallel 0.01uF capacitor and a 330ohm resistor between the inductor and ground).

My limited understanding is that this inductor is just to stop RF energy from getting out of the stage via the earth rail (correct ?).

As such if I'm building one then my research leads me to believe that the ideal ferrite material would be Amidon mix 77 which is listed as having an AL of 2160 (mH/1000 turns) if I use a FT-50B core which is available from Rocky as part number 25312.

So putting all the numbers together I make it

```
turns = 1000 * sqrt(inductance_mh / AL_mh_per_1000_turns)
turns = 1000 * sqrt(0.470 mh / 2160)
turns = 1000 * sqrt(2.1759*10^-4)
turns = 1000 * 0.0175
turns = 14.7510
```

so say about 14 or 15 turns on this core size and material type.

Have I got this much correct?

Since inductance is going to vary with frequency why does frequency as a variable not play any part in the equations given by Amidon?

Last question, is this an inductor that I'm going to have to wind or can I substitute for a ready made part at this location?

Cheers Steve.

86. Radio Projects Vol 2?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-10 01:33:53 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 86 Message: 86

Hi All,

Anyone know where I can get a copy of Drew Diamond's VK3XU - Radio Projects for the Amateur Vol 2?

Following a suggestion from Owen regarding a "Computarock" HF receiver I have ordered from the WIA bookshop Vol 1, 3 & 4 but neither the WIA nor TTS have any stock left of Vol 2. Which apparently is out of print for the moment.

73, Steve.

87. New file uploaded to ARNSWHomebrewgroup

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-13 22:49:33 UTC
From: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
Topic: 39 Message: 87

```
Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the ARNSWHomebrewgroup
group.

File : /ps.pdf
Uploaded by : shaunbreath <shaunbreath@...>
Description : Converting a Computer Power Supply to a Ham Power Supply

You can access this file at the URL:
http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/ARNSWHomebrewgroup/files/ps.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/au/yahoo7/groups/original/ownmod/web/index.htmlfiles

Regards,

shaunbreath <shaunbreath@...>
```

88. New file uploaded to ARNSWHomebrewgroup

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-14 00:31:32 UTC
From: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
Topic: 39 Message: 88

Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the ARNSWHomebrewgroup
group.

File : /How to Modify an ATX Computer Power Supply.pdf
Uploaded by : shaunbreath <shaunbreath@...>
Description : How to modify a ATX Computer Power Supply

You can access this file at the URL:
http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/ARNSWHomebrewgroup/files/How%20to%20Modify%20an%20ATX%20Computer%20Power%20Supply.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
http://help.yahoo.com/l/au/yahoo7/groups/original/ownmod/web/index.htmlfiles

Regards,

shaunbreath <shaunbreath@...>

89. Availablity dual gate FET's?

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-17 06:35:25 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 85 Message: 89

Would I be correct in assuming that these are now only available (easily) in surface mount form?

73, Steve.

90. Re: Ferrite Core Calculations

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-17 07:20:29 UTC
From: Alan Yates
Topic: 85 Message: 90

Steve,

It sounds like just an RF choke to stop the RF seeing the bias network and being shunted. You can probably use a moulded choke of around that value, or wind your own, its value likely isn't too critical. As long as the inductor isn't self-resonant below the frequency of operation it should work OK.

Where is this circuit by the way? Interesting that it couples out of the source - not a bad idea but I haven't often seen it. Is there a buffer after this stage?

More on the 2 MHz IF - the xtals I have from Rockby are quite high-Q, you may have trouble making wide-band filters with them. For CW it would be fine, but 3-4 kHz might not be do-able with a reasonable shape. I haven't done the math, but the ladder shunt capacitance needed might be very small, making the filter impractical.

--- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Stephen Arnold" <vk2sja@...> wrote:
>
> Hi there All,
>
> The newbie with more questions for the collective mind...
>
> Still working on parts for a VCO. Again with thanks to Owen & Alan for
> their replies to the "I.F. Selection question".
>
> I'm going to order a small heap of 2 Mhz crystals from Rockby. They are
> very cheap and I like Alan's idea of using 2 Mhz for the I.F. and
> injecting the VCO high side.
>
> Owen's suggestion of injecting high side but using a VFO from 9.5 to
10MHz
> is also still a possibility as I already have a whole bunch of 6.0 Mhz
> crystals to use for the I.F.
>
> Today's question(s) relates to a RF choke in the circuit I'm loosely
> trying to copy. It is listed as 470uH and is on the oscillators FET
> source(?) pin between the source and ground (after the inductor there is
> also a parallel 0.01uF capacitor and a 330ohm resistor between the
> inductor and ground).
>
> My limited understanding is that this inductor is just to stop RF energy
> from getting out of the stage via the earth rail (correct ?).
>

> As such if I'm building one then my research leads me to believe
that the
> ideal ferrite material would be Amidon mix 77 which is listed as
having an
> AL of 2160 (mH/1000 turns) if I use a FT-50B core which is available
from
> Rocky as part number 25312.
>
> So putting all the numbers together I make it
>
> turns = 1000 * sqrt(inductance_mh / AL_mh_per_1000_turns)
> turns = 1000 * sqrt(0.470 mh / 2160)
> turns = 1000 * sqrt(2.1759*10^-4)
> turns = 1000 * 0.0175
> turns = 14.7510
>
> so say about 14 or 15 turns on this core size and material type.
>
> Have I got this much correct?
>
> Since inductance is going to vary with frequency why does frequency as a
> variable not play any part in the equations given by Amidon?
>
> Last question, is this an inductor that I'm going to have to wind or
can I
> substitute for a ready made part at this location?
>
> Cheers Steve.
>

91. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Re: Ferrite Core Calculations

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-09-18 01:15:55 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 85 Message: 91

Hi Alan,

I haven't yet been able to find a moulded choke approaching 470uH. I'll keep looking. Value is probably not too critical. Perhaps a ferrite bead here would suffice?

The circuit is the VFO as first seen in chapter 10 of Frank Harris, K?IYE book "CRYSTAL SETS TO SIDEBAND" which is available from here:

http://www.hanssummers.com/radio/k0iye/index.htm

I was setting out to build my own superhet receiver largely copying ideas from the book above. But just last week on advice from Owen I ordered and obtained Drew Diamond's VK3XU Radio Projects Vol 1, 3 & 4 (can't seem to get number 2 from anywhere). So I'm now looking closely at Drew's "Computarock" HF receiver. As this one seems somewhat simpler upon first glance for a beginner.

Ultimately my receiver may well be a hybrid of design ideas based on the parts available ;-)

Understood about the High-Q 2Mhz crystals. They are cheap enough so I'll order them anyway. They'll get used for something.

73, Steve.

On Wed, September 17, 2008 5:20 pm, Alan Yates wrote:
> Steve,
>
> It sounds like just an RF choke to stop the RF seeing the bias network and being shunted. You can probably use a moulded choke of around that value, or wind your own, its value likely isn't too critical. As long as the inductor isn't self-resonant below the frequency of
> operation it should work OK.
>
> Where is this circuit by the way? Interesting that it couples out of the source - not a bad idea but I haven't often seen it. Is there a buffer after this stage?
>
> More on the 2 MHz IF - the xtals I have from Rockby are quite high-Q, you may have trouble making wide-band filters with them. For CW it would be fine, but 3-4 kHz might not be do-able with a reasonable shape. I haven't done the math, but the ladder shunt capacitance needed might be very small, making the filter impractical.
>
> --- In ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au, "Stephen Arnold"
> <vk2sja@...> wrote:

>> Hi there All,
>> The newbie with more questions for the collective mind...
>> Still working on parts for a VCO. Again with thanks to Owen & Alan for
their replies to the "I.F. Selection question".
>> I'm going to order a small heap of 2 Mhz crystals from Rockby. They are
very cheap and I like Alan's idea of using 2 Mhz for the I.F. and
injecting the VCO high side.
>> Owen's suggestion of injecting high side but using a VFO from 9.5 to
> 10MHz
>> is also still a possibility as I already have a whole bunch of 6.0 Mhz
crystals to use for the I.F.
>> Today's question(s) relates to a RF choke in the circuit I'm loosely
trying to copy. It is listed as 470uH and is on the oscillators FET
source(?) pin between the source and ground (after the inductor there
is
>> also a parallel 0.01uF capacitor and a 330ohm resistor between the
inductor and ground).
>> My limited understanding is that this inductor is just to stop RF
energy
>> from getting out of the stage via the earth rail (correct ?).
>> As such if I'm building one then my research leads me to believe
> that the
>> ideal ferrite material would be Amidon mix 77 which is listed as
> having an
>> AL of 2160 (mH/1000 turns) if I use a FT-50B core which is available
> from
>> Rocky as part number 25312.
>> So putting all the numbers together I make it
>> turns = 1000 * sqrt(inductance_mh / AL_mh_per_1000_turns)
>> turns = 1000 * sqrt(0.470 mh / 2160)
>> turns = 1000 * sqrt(2.1759*10^-4)
>> turns = 1000 * 0.0175
>> turns = 14.7510
>> so say about 14 or 15 turns on this core size and material type. Have I
got this much correct?
>> Since inductance is going to vary with frequency why does frequency as
a
>> variable not play any part in the equations given by Amidon?
>> Last question, is this an inductor that I'm going to have to wind or
> can I
>> substitute for a ready made part at this location?
>> Cheers Steve.
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo!7 Groups Links
>
>

>

93. Request copy of PCI Soundcard Interface article - Amateur Radio, April 2004

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-12-09 08:51:16 UTC
From: tonymagon
Topic: 93 Message: 93

Does anyone have a copy of the PCI Soundcard Interface article that was published in Amateur Radio, April 2004 starting on Page 24. I have a copy of Page 24, but I have lost the other pages of the article

Regards

Tony VK2IC

Sydney

94. Apology by VK2ASU

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-12-16 09:35:15 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 94 Message: 94

Sorry everyone as I didn't run the net tonight. For some crazy reason I had thought today was Wednesday. At 8:10 while watching TV I realized it was Tuesday and ran out to the shack but both 2 and 80 metres was quiet. Getting older is fine but I wish the brain would stay young.

Again sorry everyone
John VK2ASU

95. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Apology by VK2ASU

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2008-12-16 09:42:09 UTC
From: Peter Marks
Topic: 94 Message: 95

No worries John,

There was a station on the repeater that I couldn't make out. I tried calling but no one came back.

Another time.

Peter

On 16/12/2008, at 8:35 PM, vk2asu wrote:

> Sorry everyone as I didn't run the net tonight. For some crazy reason
> I had thought today was Wednesday. At 8:10 while watching TV I
> realized it was Tuesday and ran out to the shack but both 2 and 80
> metres was quiet. Getting older is fine but I wish the brain would
> stay young.
>
> Again sorry everyone
> John VK2ASU
>
>
>
>

Peter Marks
0422 444 125
peter.marks@...
"Where's there's smoke, There are mirrors."

96. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Request copy of PCI Soundcard Interface article - Amateur Radio, April 2004

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2009-01-05 04:25:09 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 93 Message: 96

Hi Tony,

Has someone already found this for you?

A couple of days back I was sorting through my collection of AR mags. So I know I have a copy of AR April 2004.

73, Steve.

On Tue, December 9, 2008 7:51 pm, tonymagon wrote:
>
> Does anyone have a copy of the PCI Soundcard Interface article that was
> published in Amateur Radio, April 2004 starting on Page 24. I have a
> copy of Page 24, but I have lost the other pages of the article
>
>
> Regards
>
> Tony VK2IC
>
> Sydney
>

97. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Request copy of PCI Soundcard Interface article - Amateur Radio, April 2004

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2009-01-05 10:17:06 UTC
From: Kevin Dawson
Topic: 93 Message: 97

G'day Steve, Tony and others.

On Tue, December 9, 2008 7:51 pm, tonymagon wrote:
>
> Does anyone have a copy of the PCI Soundcard Interface article that was
> published in Amateur Radio, April 2004 starting on Page 24. I have a
> copy of Page 24, but I have lost the other pages of the article

On Mon, 2009-01-05 at 15:25 +1100, Stephen Arnold wrote:

> Has someone already found this for you?
>
> A couple of days back I was sorting through my collection of AR mags.
> So I know I have a copy of AR April 2004.

Could you give a quick description of what the interface is / does?
Finding my April 2004 issue isn't so easy :-)

Thanks,
Kevin

98. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Request copy of PCI Soundcard Interface article - Amateur Radio, April 2004

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2009-01-07 09:23:47 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 93 Message: 98

Hi Kev/All,

I've now dug this article out and quickly read it.

It is only 1 and a half pages long. So if you have page 24 you're only missing the bottom half of page 25. I'm happy to fax/scan or e-mail the missing half page if required.

You asked my quick summery/take on the article so here it is:-

The article leaves me a little confused but this is possibly due to historical reasons.

Presented is a PC-Sound Card to radio interface which is correctly isolated. i.e. total isolation. Most importantly the ground is not common between computer side and radio side.

Fundamentally this is achieved by using three audio transformers for PC audio-out RIGHT STEREO CHANNEL, PC audio-in (STEREO CHANNEL NOT STATED, probably the RIGHT but could be either and may make no difference) and PC audio out control of the TX line using the LEFT STEREO CHANNEL output.

The article talks about problems encountered with the sound audio level output (ON THE LEFT STEREO CHANNEL) on the then modern sound cards (now common) being too low to drive the TX rectification switching circuit. The circuit presented overcomes this issue and my take is that it would work correctly with current generation sound cards.

But here lies my confusion. This system of controlling the radios TX line relies on the software being able to generate a constant audio tone on the LEFT CHANNEL only which is then rectified to control the TX line.

Personally I've not yet had much to do with digital modes but have "toy-ed" with them and YES this is still a common option supported by most if not all of the digital mode software that I have seen.

However it would not be *my* preferred method of controlling a TX line. Seems a little overly complex and kludgey to my mind (what happens if your PC starts playing music and the interface cable is still plugged in ???). A more direct method of software control of the TX line by interface lines on either a PC serial or parallel port would seem more appropriate - to me at least. And most software I've seen supports this.

The article seems to be saying that the audio rectification method to control a TX switching signal is desirable because both of the two serial ports commonly available on PC's at the time would already be in use for

other purposes. This was quite probably true at the time the article was written but seems unlikely now as very few devices remain that use the traditional PC serial RS-232 interface.

The problem today is quite the reverse. Very few PC's and increasingly almost no laptops are being manufactured with serial ports at all. So if your stuck with no available serial (or parallel) ports then the solution presented is probably still a good one.

But if you have a spare serial (or parallel) port then I'd vote to use that instead. If you have only modern USB ports then you could use the method presented OR try and use one of the USB-to-Serial "dongals" (interface cables) that are readily available quite cheaply.

These USB-to-Serial converters do create there own "issues" as some are much better than others. Most often the problem revolves around the original serial specification using a +/-12vdc swing. Modern implementations cheat and use a +5vdc swing which keeps most devices happy but not all. Sometimes however the more el-cheapo USB-to-Serial devices totally fail to mimic the proper sequence of control lines as per the original specification.

For simple software control of a particular RS-232C control line for the purpose of TX control I would expect that most USB-to-Serial "converters" would function properly.

Although I admit to having little digital mode experience I have built interface(s)/cables that control the TX both ways. Both from sound card tone and serial control line. Ultimately, both work.

Perhaps others reading this with more digital experience than I would like to make more informed comment one way or the other.

73, Steve
VK2SJA

PS. If you use a serial or parallel port control line to trigger the radio TX line then that circuit should properly isolate both the signal and the electrical ground for total PC to radio isolation. This is usually achieved using a simple opto-isolator.

PPS. HAPPY NEW YEAR ALL! And best wishes to all for 2009.

On Mon, January 5, 2009 9:17 pm, Kevin Dawson wrote:
> G'day Steve, Tony and others.
>
> On Tue, December 9, 2008 7:51 pm, tonymagon wrote:
>>
>> Does anyone have a copy of the PCI Soundcard Interface article that was
>> published in Amateur Radio, April 2004 starting on Page 24. I have a
>> copy of Page 24, but I have lost the other pages of the article
>
> On Mon, 2009-01-05 at 15:25 +1100, Stephen Arnold wrote:

>
>> Has someone already found this for you?
>>
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>
> Could you give a quick description of what the interface is / does?
> Finding my April 2004 issue isn't so easy :-)
>
> Thanks,
> Kevin
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo!7 Groups Links
>
>
>

99. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Request copy of PCI Soundcard Interface article - Amateur Radio, April 2004

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2009-01-07 10:22:13 UTC
From: Tony Magon
Topic: 93 Message: 99
Attachments: 2 described; binary payloads are missing from this source WARC

```
[ Attachment content not displayed ]
```

100. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Request copy of PCI Soundcard Interface article - Amateur Radio, April 2004

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2009-01-07 12:58:45 UTC
From: Kevin Dawson
Topic: 93 Message: 100

On Wed, 2009-01-07 at 20:23 +1100, Stephen Arnold wrote:

> The article leaves me a little confused but this is possibly due to
> historical reasons.
>
> Presented is a PC-Sound Card to radio interface which is correctly
> isolated. i.e. total isolation. Most importantly the ground is not
> common
> between computer side and radio side.
>
> Fundamentally this is achieved by using three audio transformers for
> PC
> audio-out RIGHT STEREO CHANNEL, PC audio-in (STEREO CHANNEL NOT
> STATED,
> probably the RIGHT but could be either and may make no difference) and
> PC
> audio out control of the TX line using the LEFT STEREO CHANNEL output.

I've gone away from transformers because there have been some horribly inefficient and non-linear items (in terms of frequency response and transfer characteristics) in the shops. They're also susceptible to magnetic induction and are just plain big. I don't lay out my circuits quite as large as Peter EMU does!

Generally, I achieve DC isolation with non-polarised capacitors. Granted, the common-mode rejection of transformers is a selling point, but I'm not convinced it's that much of an issue if both sides have an earth that acts as (eg) a shield. They're both an AC earth so joining them with a capacitor will be straightforward.

> The article talks about problems encountered with the sound audio
> level
> output (ON THE LEFT STEREO CHANNEL) on the then modern sound cards
> (now
> common) being too low to drive the TX rectification switching circuit.
> The
> circuit presented overcomes this issue and my take is that it would
> work
> correctly with current generation sound cards.

That is one area where a transformer may have an advantage. If the soundcard has a sufficiently low output impedance, such as to drive 8-ohm speakers (probably not 32-ohm ones), you can take the typical 500:8 ohm transformer, put the 8-ohm side on the soundcard and that gives you approx 8x voltage gain, which you can then rectify etc. This

may be the approach in the AR article (I haven't seen it yet), being fairly easy to implement.

Unfortunately, it seems (to me, at least) that modern soundcards are moving away from being able to drive 8-ohm loads, so this method may not work as frequently as it used to. These days, if I need a signal amplifier I generally just bite the bullet and find a DC supply somewhere. It's usually only a couple of milliamps I need, so it can come from a serial port, a radio microphone or accessory connector, or something like that.

Unlike Steve, I prefer to use the signal itself to generate PTT. If I ever start playing music into my radio, the resulting flak from others will serve me right :-) I see the use of a serial port as being a bit wasteful, as it is only providing a DC signal which prevents its availability for something else. This becomes more important when you have a few radios connected to the one computer, or even a dedicated controller (which I do quite a bit for WICEN work, but for this I have a defined standard). Nearly all digital signal types have a steady signal level from the soundcard when transmitting and don't need to constantly switch between TX and RX during operation - the break-in modes like ARQ AMTOR being the obviously exception.

All that is, of course, how my system works. If your needs dictate a different approach, by all means use it. On the other hand, if you need an interface that only uses one channel of a soundcard and no other ports, I'm happy to distribute a circuit which only needs 8-15 volts at a couple of milliamps (from the radio) and $20 at Jaycar for the bits. It's intended to drive the mic/PTT input and use either a line level or speaker output of the radio. I've made mine on prototyping PCBs, having not yet designed a board for it.

> Although I admit to having little digital mode experience I have built
> interface(s)/cables that control the TX both ways. Both from sound
> card
> tone and serial control line. Ultimately, both work.

Yes, they do. That is, of course, the aim of the exercise.

Kevin

101. Photos at Dural 31-1-2010

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2010-02-02 03:37:23 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 101 Message: 101

Just letting you know that I have put photos from the meeting at Dural last Sunday into the Yahoo Groups Homebrew site.

Regards
John
VK2ASU

102. Wyong Photos

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2010-03-01 04:47:42 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 102 Message: 102

Hi All,

Have put a couple of photos on the Homebrew group site from Wyong yesterday.

73 de John VK2ASU

104. Shack in a briefcase article

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2010-05-20 02:08:59 UTC
From: tonymagon
Topic: 104 Message: 104

Hi

Can anyone supply me with the article entitled "Shack in a briefcase" - I think was published in Amateur Radio July 2002.

I think I may have thrown out that particular magazine

73

Tony VK2IC

105. Requesting a copy of 90 Sec message recorder article

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2010-10-14 06:02:00 UTC
From: tonymagon
Topic: 105 Message: 105

Hi

Does anyone still have a copy of Silicon Chip Feb 1994 - The article I require is the 90 sec message recorder article

Regards

Tony Magon VK2IC

106. New Use for an Old CRO

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-03-10 05:29:42 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 106 Message: 106

Hi All,

Put a couple of photos on the website in an album named Seppo's. They were taken at Seppo's on 1st March 2011. Mark, VK2XOF, built it. The photos are self explanatory except that the signals are fed directly to the X and Y inputs of the CRO.

73s de John VK2ASU

107. State Library QST

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-14 06:39:02 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 107 Message: 107

Hi Folks,

Got my library card today and checked out the QST files. This month's issue is even available. Thanks Peter.

73 de John VK2ASU

108. Where to place filter caps between stages

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-18 06:19:44 UTC
From: vk2sja
Topic: 108 Message: 108

Hi Chaps,

A question about where to place inter stage filter caps. Currently building Drew Diamond's VK3XU "Computarock" Receiver Mk II but the question is probably more general in nature.

Drew makes liberal use of some 0.1uF caps between various stages. My question is when building the stages on separate isolated circuit boards is there a rule of thumb that says which board this 0.1uF cap should go on? Should it be at the end of output stage or at the beginning of the new input stage. Or doesn't it matter one whit?

I hope this makes sense.

73, Steve
VK2SJA

109. [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Where to place filter caps between stages

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-18 13:56:21 UTC
From: Les Grant
Topic: 108 Message: 109

Hi Steve,

I would put them at the input of the next stage. The output would usually be of lower impedance that the next input so the higher impedance input would be more succeptable to stray noise pickup (the cap will have some reactance). I would still keep the wiring as short as possible. I hope that makes some sense.

Regards,
Les. VK2KYJ

On 18 Apr 2011 at 6:19, vk2sja wrote:

> Hi Chaps,
>
> A question about where to place inter stage filter caps. Currently building Drew Diamond's VK3XU "Computarock" Receiver Mk II but the question is probably more general in nature.
>
> Drew makes liberal use of some 0.1uF caps between various stages. My question is when building the stages on separate isolated circuit boards is there a rule of thumb that says which board this 0.1uF cap should go on? Should it be at the end of output s
> tage or at the beginning of the new input stage. Or doesn't it matter one whit?
>
> I hope this makes sense.
>
> 73, Steve
> VK2SJA
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> ------------------------------------
>
> Yahoo!7 Groups Links
>
>
>

Les Grant. VK2KYJ. Phone: 02 9896 7150

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Microcontroller Hardware and Software development:
Atmel AVR - C, ASM, Digital and analogue
---
o ImageCraft AVR, TI, Motorola and ARM Windows-hosted C compilers
o ELNEC Device Programmers (E)EPROMs, Flash, Micros, PLDs
o CAN-BUS Hardware and Software from LAWICEL
o Logical Systems Programming, Prototyping & Production Adaptors
o Cleverscope USB oscilloscopes
---

110. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Where to place filter caps between stages

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-19 01:16:48 UTC
From: Stephen Arnold
Topic: 108 Message: 110

Hi Les,

Makes sense to me. On the input of the next stage it is.

Thanks!

73, Steve.

On Mon, April 18, 2011 11:56 pm, Les Grant wrote:
> Hi Steve,
>
> I would put them at the input of the next stage. The output would
> usually be of lower impedance that the next input so the higher
> impedance input would be more succeptable to stray noise pickup (the
> cap will have some reactance). I would still keep the wiring as short
> as possible. I hope that makes some sense.
>
> Regards,
> Les. VK2KYJ
>

111. Dural Repeater & VK2ASU

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-19 07:27:29 UTC
From: vk2asu
Topic: 111 Message: 111

Hi All,

It is 5.20 p.m. and I can't trigger the Dural 147 repeater. Can get into Heathcote OK though. Does anyone know if the repeater is off air.

The net is tonight and I suspect I might be in an RF shadow as last month's net I couldn't get into Dural either although I could hear everyone OK.

I'll try again at 8 p.m. but if you don't hear me someone else will need to run the 2 metre section of the net. My 80 metres is fine.

73s de John VK2ASU

112. Re: [ARNSWHomebrewgroup] Dural Repeater & VK2ASU

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-19 07:55:39 UTC
From: Peter Marks
Topic: 111 Message: 112

John,

I can't trigger Dural 2m repeater either.

I'll be standing by on 80m from 8pm (thanks for the reminder!).

73s peter vk2tpm

On 19/04/2011, at 5:27 PM, vk2asu wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> It is 5.20 p.m. and I can't trigger the Dural 147 repeater. Can get into Heathcote OK though. Does anyone know if the repeater is off air.
>
> The net is tonight and I suspect I might be in an RF shadow as last month's net I couldn't get into Dural either although I could hear everyone OK.
>
> I'll try again at 8 p.m. but if you don't hear me someone else will need to run the 2 metre section of the net. My 80 metres is fine.
>
> 73s de John VK2ASU
>
>

Peter Marks
peter.marks@...

113. J.W. Miller Coils

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2011-04-21 05:32:06 UTC
From: vk2sja
Topic: 113 Message: 113

Hi Chaps.

This is a very long shot but I thought I'd ask. Is anyone able to identify the specifications for the following J.W. Miller slug-tuned (ceramic) coils:-

Slug-tuned ceramic coil

J.W. Miller 21A686RBI
J.W. Miller 21A155RBI

I've Googled and have indeed found some J.W. Miller data sheets (http://www.junkbox.com/electronics/vintagedatasheets.shtml for instance) but can't find any part numbers that start with 21A anywhere.

It would be great if someone happens to know what the logical break-down of the part number is (if this helps to identify the part by its characteristics).

The reason for asking is that I am attempting to replicate the radio receiver project from a book called "Novice Radio Guide" by Jim Ashe, W1EZT. He uses these parts in the input filters for 80m and 40m.

This is purely a project of nostalgia and I can always substitute but it would be nice to know what the original bits were. So don't go to any great lengths but if you happen to have an antique J.W. Miller catalog kicking around somewhere...

Also, way back when these were made (late 50's? early 60's?) was ferrite material technology sufficiently advanced to have multiple mix types? Or were the slugs effectively just powdered iron. i.e. if I know the number of turns and the fact that the slug was 3/8" 9.5mm can I get away with winding it on a generic 9mm AM radio ferrite rod?

73, Steve.
VK2SJA

114. New file uploaded to ARNSWHomebrewgroup

Yahoo group: ARNSWHomebrewgroup
Date: 2015-05-31 22:12:22 UTC
From: ARNSWHomebrewgroup@yahoogroups.com.au
Topic: 114 Message: 114

```
Hello,

This email message is a notification to let you know that
a file has been uploaded to the Files area of the ARNSWHomebrewgroup
group.

File : /Wagner 1729.pdf
Uploaded by : vk2kyp <garybeech@...>
Description : service manual

You can access this file at the URL:
https://au.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ARNSWHomebrewgroup/files/Wagner%201729.pdf

To learn more about file sharing for your group, please visit:
https://help.yahoo.com/kb/index?page=content&y=PROD_GRPS&locale=en_AU&id=SLN15398

Regards,

vk2kyp <garybeech@...>
```